WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for identifying field resistance of a rice plant to rice blast, the method comprising the steps of:

extracting a genomic DNA from the rice; and

using a DNA marker which is closely linked to a field resistance gene *pi21(t)* to analyze polymorphism at a site in the genomic DNA corresponding to the DNA marker, thereby determining the presence or absence of the gene.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the DNA marker is G271.

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the polymorphism analysis is performed by a technique selected from the group consisting of RFLP, RAPD, CAPS, SSR and AFLP.

4. A method for breeding a rice variety having field resistance to rice blast, the method comprising the steps of:

crossing a first rice variety having field resistance to rice blast with a second rice variety lacking the field resistance to rice blast so as to obtain first generation rice varieties;

extracting a genomic DNA from each of the first generation rice varieties or progenies thereof;

using a DNA marker which is closely linked to a field resistance gene *pi21(t)* to analyze polymorphism at a site in the genomic DNA corresponding to the DNA marker, thereby determining the presence or absence of the gene; and

selecting an individual in which the gene is shown to be present from the first generation rice varieties or the progenies thereof.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein the DNA marker is G271.

6. A method according to claim 4, wherein the polymorphism analysis is performed by a technique selected from the group consisting of RFLP, RAPD, CAPS, SSR and AFLP.